

COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION May 31, 2007

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UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX STUDENT BEING TREATED FOR TUBERCULOSIS County and School Officials Notify and Test Classmates and Faculty

San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency and University of Phoenix officials are notifying 35 students and seven faculty members of their possible exposure to tuberculosis.

A student who attends the Murphy Canyon Road campus was recently diagnosed with TB and may have been infectious from February 26, 2007 through May 21, 2007.

"We are focusing on those students and faculty members who were known to have repeated and prolonged exposure to the student," said Dr. Wilma Wooten, Interim County Deputy Public Health Officer. "Although the risk of them actually contracting TB is low, HHSA Public Health Services and University of Phoenix are erring on the side of caution."

"We encourage all potentially exposed students and faculty to be tested as a precaution," said Kim Savich of University of Phoenix. "The health and safety of our students and staff is a priority and we will continue to work cooperatively with HHSA to ensure their protection."

The infected student attended a Monday evening class held in Classroom 9 from 6 - 10 pm. Testing for students and faculty who had regular contact with the student will be offered at the campus next week.

Symptoms of active TB include persistent cough, fever, night sweats and unexplained weight loss. Most people who are exposed to TB do not develop the disease.

Individuals with no medical provider, or anyone who would like more information, may call the County TB Control Program at (619) 692-8621.

Tuberculosis is not uncommon in the San Diego region. During 2006, there were 315 total cases of TB in San Diego County.

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